

Mr. John Bodnar  
169 Davenport  
New Haven Ct.

Mr. Bodnar is 56 years old and is confined to a wheelchair with multiple sclerosis. He specifies that he lives in the greatest small city in America. He wanted to point out that many of the people he knows are helpful and great but there are a few bad apples. He mentions that he finds people are more supportive than businesses and organizations. He mentioned several antidotal stories about some of the people who have come to his and others assistance.

He mentioned that he is unable to leave his dwelling or go out in the courtyard because they are locked down or they have inadequate facilities (unable to easily navigate through doors, etc.). He says that a corporation sent him a letter indicating that they are "grandfathered" as far as the handicapper access issues. He mentioned this on his face book account (difficulty getting into a local coffee shop) and he even received threats stating that "people like you are driving up the cost of coffee".

He indicated that conditions in the nursing facility are prison like conditions.

He believes that HB 5195 AA Requiring Nursing Home Facilities to Electronically Report Involuntary Transfers or Discharges to the State Ombudsman and HB 5196 AAC Electronic Reporting of Involuntary Transfers or Discharges by Residential Care Homes would be helpful to those with disabilities like him.

(Information transcribed by Assist Clerk for Aging – Richard Ferrari)